

REMARKS

In the above-noted Official Action, claims 24-46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over KOCH et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,804,716).

Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding rejection. As set forth below, KOCH does not disclose “each and every” feature recited in the claims of the present application, as would be required for the rejection of claims 24-46 under 35 U.S.C. §102 over KOCH to be proper.

For example, claim 24 is directed to a:

*“service control point for controlling an outbound call using a subscriber's outbound call rule information, comprising:
a receiver that receives the outbound call rule information;
a memory that stores the outbound call rule information; and
a sender that sends at least one service control point control message based on action information when a switch message is received and a condition based on condition information is met, the switch message being received from a switch at the service control point in response to the outbound call being placed to a dialed number and received at the switch, and the service control point control message being sent to the switch for controlling the outbound call received at the switch;
wherein the stored outbound call rule information is configurable by a subscriber and is comprised of at least one rule, and
wherein each rule is comprised of a portion of the action information and a portion of the condition information”.*

By way of comparison, KOCH discloses a “local service control point (SCP) 44” (see col. 3, line 50). The SCP 44 in KOCH “may interrogate the database 48 to determine whether some customized call feature or enhanced service should be implemented for the particular call based on the subscriber's call management profile, stored in the database 48” (see col. 4, lines 49-53). Further, “FIG. 2 is a block diagram of a network 70...

for providing a telecommunications subscriber access to their call management profile” (see col. 5, lines 13-16).

The relationship of a call management profile to outgoing calls is described with specificity in KOCH only at col. 1, lines 56-59, col. 4, lines 5-7, and at col. 7, line 66 to col. 8, line 5. However, KOCH does not disclose that a call management profile includes rules “comprised of a portion of... action information and a portion of... condition information” as recited in claim 24. Further, KOCH does not disclose “a sender that sends at least one service control point control message based on action information when a switch message is received and a condition based on condition information is met” (emphasis added) as recited in claim 24. Rather, KOCH merely generically discloses that a “call management profile may include calling services such as, for example, call forwarding, call screening, call blocking, and remote event notification” (see col. 5, lines 47-50).

As described above, KOCH does not disclose or suggest “each and every” feature recited in claim 24. Therefore, claim 24 is allowable under 35 U.S.C. §102.

Features of the claims dependent from claim 24 are also not disclosed or suggested in KOCH. For example, KOCH does not disclose or suggest that “the condition information further comprises at least one condition related to at least a portion of the dialed number” as recited in claim 25. Rather, KOCH merely discloses that outgoing calls may be processed based on the “subscriber’s outgoing call management profile” (see col. 7, line 40 to col. 8, line 5). Further,

KOCH does not disclose or suggest that "the action information comprises information related to submitting a personal identification (PIN) number" as recited in claim 27, that "the action information comprises information related to sending a page to a paging device" as recited in claim 28, that "the action information comprises information related to prepending at least one prefix number to a dialed number sequence" as recited in claim 30, that "the action information further comprises a dial-around code" and "the action further comprises routing the outbound call via a carrier associated with the dial-around code" as recited in claim 31, that "at least one rule comprises a plurality of actions" as recited in claim 32, that "at least one rule comprises a plurality of conditions" as recited in claim 33, or that "the outbound call rule information comprises a plurality of rules" as recited in claim 34.

The outstanding Official Action asserts that each of the above-noted features of the dependent claims are disclosed in KOCH at col. 5, lines 46-60. However, at col. 5, lines 46-60, KOCH describes that a "call management profile may include calling services such as, for example, call forwarding, call screening, call blocking, and remote event notification". These teachings of KOCH do not disclose or suggest the numerous features of the dependent claims as set forth above. Accordingly, if the rejection of any of the above-noted dependent claims over KOCH is maintained, citation to the specific teaching (e.g., a direct quotation) of KOCH that is believed to disclose the features of each such claim is respectfully requested.

Claim 35 is also allowable over KOCH. In this regard, claim 35 is directed to a:

“method for controlling an outbound call using a subscriber's outbound call rule information, comprising:

*receiving outbound call rule information configured by a subscriber;
storing the outbound call rule information at a service control point;
sending from the service control point to a switch at least one service control point control message based on action information when a switch message is received and a condition based on condition information is met, the switch message being received from the switch at the service control point in response to the outbound call being placed to a dialed number and received at the switch, and the service control point control message being sent to the switch for controlling the outbound call received at the switch;*

wherein the stored outbound call rule information comprises at least one rule; and

wherein each rule comprises a portion of the action information and a portion of the condition information.

In this regard, KOCH does not disclose “sending from the service control point to a switch at least one service control point control message based on action information when a switch message is received and a condition based on condition information is met” (emphasis added) as recited in claim 35. Further, KOCH does not disclose that outbound call rule information “comprises a portion of... action information and a portion of... condition information” as recited in claim 35. Rather, as noted above with respect to the rejection of claim 24, KOCH merely generically discloses that a “call management profile may include calling services such as, for example, call forwarding, call screening, call blocking, and remote event notification” (see col. 5, lines 47-50).

Features of the claims dependent from claim 35 are also not disclosed or suggested in KOCH. For example, KOCH does not disclose or suggest “determining whether at least a portion of a number dialed satisfies at least one condition of the outbound call rule information” as recited in claim 37. Rather, KOCH merely discloses that outgoing calls may be processed based on the

"subscriber's outgoing call management profile" (see col. 7, line 40 to col. 8, line 5). Further, KOCH does not disclose or suggest "receiving a personal identification number (PIN) based on the action information of the outbound call rule information" as recited in claim 39, that "a page is sent to a paging device based on the action information of the outbound call rule information" as recited in claim 40, that "at least one prefix number is prepended to a dialed number sequence based on the action information of the outbound call rule information" as recited in claim 42, that "the action information further comprises a dial-around code" and "the initiating further comprises routing the outbound call via a carrier associated with the dial-around code" as recited in claim 43, that "the switch initiates a plurality of actions based on the action information of the rule" as recited in claim 44, "determining whether outbound call information in the switch message satisfies a plurality of conditions of the rule" as recited in claim 45, or "determining whether outbound call information in the switch message satisfies conditions of a plurality of rules" as recited in claim 46.

The outstanding Official Action asserts that each of the above-noted features of the dependent claims are disclosed in KOCH at col. 5, lines 46-60. However, at col. 5, lines 46-60, KOCH describes that a "call management profile may include calling services such as, for example, call forwarding, call screening, call blocking, and remote event notification". These teachings of KOCH do not disclose or suggest the numerous features of the dependent claims as set forth above. Accordingly, if the rejection of any of the above-noted dependent claims over KOCH is maintained, citation to the specific teaching (e.g., a direct

quotation) of KOCH that is believed to disclose the features of each such claim is respectfully requested.

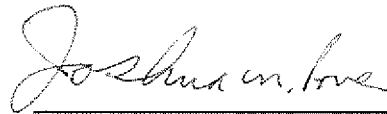
Therefore, Applicants submit that each of independent claims 24 and 35 is allowable, at least for each and all of the reasons noted above. Applicants further submit that each of dependent claims 25-34 and 36-46 are allowable at least for depending, directly or indirectly, from an allowable independent claim, as well as for additional reasons related to their own recitations such as those exemplary reasons noted above.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Applicants have made a sincere effort to place the present application in condition for allowance, and believe that this has now been done. Applicants have discussed the features recited in Applicants' claims, and have shown how the combination of features recited in Applicants' claims are not disclosed, suggested or rendered obvious by the references applied in the Official Action. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejection, as well as an indication of the allowance of each of the pending claims, is respectfully requested.

Should there be any questions regarding this Response, any representative of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,
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